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**DATE:** December 6, 2019

**SUBJECT:** Libya Weekly Update

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Below is a summary of the latest top headlines of the week surrounding the news in Libya. Key highlights include:

- Russia continues to play a large role in establishing influence in Libya, providing Haftar with money, weapons, and a mercenary force. This is to destroy democracy in North Africa and subvert American influence.
- Haftar's LNA army conducted an airstrike that killed 4 Libyan children in Tripoli. This is the latest war crime committed by Haftar's forces, which was another indiscriminate attack on civilian locations.
- US officials are slowly heightening their focus on Libya and are calling on General Haftar to end his offensive on Tripoli in order to facilitate a political peace process.

Wall Street Journal (12/2): [Don't Let Russia Dominate Libya](#)

- Russia is continuing to have a heavy influence on the ground in Libya through the supply of money, weapons, and mercenaries.
- If successful, Russia will aim to plant their own autocratic leader, be it General Haftar or Gaddafi's son, to signal to the world that democracy failed in Libya.
- The UAE, Saudi Arabia, and Egypt are also on the side of the Russians and General Haftar, aiming to destroy democracy in the region.
- The United States must take a more active role in Libya, improve the Libyan economy, security and governance, or work to end the conflict.

Washington Times (12/3): [Russia is eating America's lunch in Libya](#)

- The United States is losing what used to be dominant power in the Middle East and North Africa.
- Russia is continuing to play a large role of influence in Libya, aiming to subvert US influence in the region.
- If successful, Russia will have an established area in North Africa, building on influence in the region and being more of a thorn in the US side in the post-Cold War era.

Associated Press (12/2): [Libya health ministry: Airstrike in Tripoli kills 4 children](#)

- Strikes by General Haftar's LNA on Tripoli have resulted in the death of 4 Libyan children.
- This latest airstrike resulting in the death of civilian children is added to the list of war crimes committed by Haftar's LNA forces.

Disseminated by Mercury Public Affairs LLC, a registered foreign agent, on behalf of the Government of National Accord Libya, Office of the Prime Minister. More information is on file with the dept. Of justice, Washington, DC.

Reuters (12/2): [Government in Libya's capital condemns deadly air strikes](#)

- The GNA have condemned LNA airstrikes on Tripoli which resulted in the death of 4 children.
- The United Nations Libya mission (UNSMIL), have condemned the attacks as well and stressed that indiscriminate attacks on civilians and civilian infrastructure are a violation to international humanitarian rights.

Washington Post (11/28): [U.S. urges renegade Libyan commander to stand down](#)

- U.S. officials in the Trump administration are actively heightening their focus on Libya.
- These officials are calling on General Haftar to end his offensive on Tripoli in an attempt to bring a political solution to end the conflict.

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